

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-13 SP-02 USIA-06  
AID-05 EB-08 NSC-05 CIEP-01 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04  
OMB-01 CEA-01 COME-00 FEAE-00 INT-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00  
PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 OES-06  
SAL-01 DLOS-06 ACDA-07 /134 W  
-----161555Z 065003 /46

P R 161400Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5019

INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

USUN NEW YORK 1186

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 0437

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

DPARTMENT PLEASE PASS OAU COLLECTIVE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PORG, OAU

SUBJ: GRZ INTERESTS -- OAU COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, LOME, FEB 22-26

REF: STATE 0)2960 #

1. ZAMBIA'S PRINCIPAL CONCERN AT THE OAU COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MEETING IN LOME WILL BE THE COUNCIL'S DISPOSITION OF THE QUESTION OF OAU SUPPORT FOR THE PATRIOTIC FRONT. ZAMBIA WILL CERTAINLY PUSH FOR EXCLUSIVE RECOGNITION, AND ANY STRENGTHENING OR REINFORCEMENT OF THE QUALIFIED LIBERATION COMMITTEE SUPPORT FOR THE PF WILL BE CONSIDERED BY THE GRZ TO BE A VINDICATION OF ITS POLICY. AS A FALL BACK POSITION, HWE BELIEVE THE GRZ WOULD BE PREPARED TO ACCEPT THE LIBERATION COMMITTEE FORMULA.

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THIS, WHILE STRESSING THE IMPORTANCE OF AIDING THE PF, LEFT THE DOOR OPEN FOR OTHER ZIMBABWEAN NATIONALISTS TO JOIN THE PF. IT ALSO PERMITTED OAU STATES TO CONTINUE SUPPORT FOR THEM AS LONG AS THEY REPRESENTED "FIGHTING FORCES AIMING AT THE ELIMINATION OF THE REBEL CLIQUE IN SALISBURY."

2. INFORMATION AVAILABLE HERE INDICATES THAT BOTH SITHOLE

AND MUZOREWA ARE PLANNING TO ATTEND THE LOME CONFERENCE. ONE SOURCE SAYS THAT SITHOLE DEFINITELY AND MUZOREWA PROBABLY WILL BRING WITH THEM GUERRILLA COMMANDERS FROM MOZAMBIQUE. IN THE CASE OF SITHOLE THESE ARE SAID TO BE ZANLA COMMANDERS WHO REJECT THE PF AND STILL RECOGNIZE HIM AS THE TOP LEADER OF ZANU. LOBBYING BY MUZOREWA AND SITHOLE, ESPECIALLY IF THEY ARE BACKED UP BY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE FIGHTING FORCES IN MOZAMBIQUE, SHOULD MAKE IT DIFFICULT FOR ZAMBIA AND THE OTHER FRONTLINE STATES TO SELL THE IDEA OF EXCLUSIVE RECOGNITION.

3. IMPORTANT ALSO IN HOW THE COUNCIL WILL DISPOSE OF THE RECOGNITION QUESTION IS THE SETTING FOR THE MEETING. THE LIBERATION COMMITTEE MEETING IN LUSAKA WAS DOMINATED BY KAUNDA. HIS OPENING ADDRESS, IN WHICH HE LAID GREAT STRESS ON RECOGNIZING THE PATRIOTIC FRONT, SERVED AS THE MOST IMPORTANT WORKING DOCUMENT FOR THE MEETING. FURTHER, DELEGATES TO THE LIBERATION COMMITTEE MEETING WERE UNDER SOME CONSTRAINT NOT TO OFFEND THEIR HOST. WE BELIEVE THE NEUTRAL LOME SETTING WILL PERMIT THOSE WHO ARE RELUCTANT TO SEE THE OAU RECOGNIZE THE PF TO EXPRESS THEIR OPPOSITION MORE OPENLY AND FORCEFULLY.

4. OTHER THAN THE RECOGNITION ISSUE, ZAMBIA CAN BE EXPECTED TO LAY AN ACTIVE ROLE IN PROMOTING THE MARCH UN MEETING ON RHODESIA, SOUTH AFRICA AND NAMIBIA. ZAMBIAN DELEGATES ARE LIKELY TO GO ALONG WITH BUT NOT INITIATE RESOLUTIONS THAT GIVE THE US CREDIT FOR A CONSTRUCTIVE APPROACH TO THE PROBLEMS OF SOUTHERN AFRICA. BUT THEY WILL ALSO SEEK A CONDEMNATION OF WESTERN, INCLUDING SPECIFICALLY

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US, FIRMS VIOLATING THE OIL EMBARGO ON RHODESIA. THEY ARE APT TO ARGUE FOR A MORE ACTIVIST ROLE FOR THE US IN RESOLVING BOTH RHODESIAN AND NAMIBIAN PROBLEMS.

5. ZAMBIAN DELEGATES ALSO WILL, WE BELIEVE, TAKE AN ACTIVE ROLE IN MATTERS TOUCHING PREPARATIONS FOR THE AFRO-ARAB SUMMIT IN CAIRO NEXT MONTH. THE GRZ IS SENSITIVE TO THE IMPACT OF INCREASED OIL PRICES ON ITS FRAGILE ECONOMY. ZAMBIAN DELEGATES WILL LOBBY FOR A BLACK AFRICAN POSITION WHICH PLACES BEFORE THE ARAB OIL PRODUCERS THEIR DUTY TO ASSIST ECONOMICALLY THOSE COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE SUFFERED THE CONSEQUENCES OF RISING OIL PRICES.

6. IN THE AREA OF ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL TOPICS, ZAMBIA CAN BE EXPECTED TO TAKE AN ACTIVE INTEREST IN ANY DISCUSSION PERTAINING TO THE RESUMED CIEC SESSION, THE COMMON FUND FOR COMMODITIES AND DEBT RELIEF IN THAT ORDER. HOWEVER, WE SUSPECT THAT THE DISPOSITION OF POLITICAL ISSUES WILL LEAVE LITTLE TIME FOR SERIOUS CONSIDERATION OF THESE MAJOR

ECONOMIC CONCERNS. IN THE SAME VEIN, WE BELIEVE THAT LAW  
OF THE SEAS, SPECIAL SESSION ON DISARMAMENT AND A THIRD  
WORLD ECONOMIC SUMMIT ARE UNLIKELY TO RECEIVE MAJOR ATTENTION.  
AS A MEMBER OF THE PREPCOM OF THE SPECIAL SESSION ON  
DISARMAMENT, ZAMBIA CAN BE EXPECTED TO TAKE A SPECIAL  
INTEREST IF IT IS DISCUSSED. HOWEVER, WE DO NOT EXPECT  
THE ZAMBIANS TO TAKE ANY INITIATIVES IN THIS REGARD.  
LOW

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED  
NOTE BY OC/T: #AS RECEIVED

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Review Markings:**  
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